ANTHROPOLOGY

The anthropology of Porto Rico offers an attractive field of study not only in the ethnology of the present inhabitants, but also and more particularly along the lines of archeology. Much material has been gathered from the surface, but a broad field is offered in the investigation of anciently inhabited caves and in the scientific working over of numerous kitchen middens.

OCEANOGRAPHY

The oceanographic work falls naturally into two general divisions—physical and biological. In both of these divisions there is opportunity for new and very valuable research.

The physical division should include a study of the tides and of the ocean currents in the neighborhood of Porto Rico. The present tidal data consist of several short and disconnected series of observations—the longest series having been made at San Juan in 1899. Observations of ocean currents are few and crude—those of the *Blake* were obtained by comparing dead-reckoning positions of the vessel with observed positions.

Tidal observations could best be carried on by the establishment of self-registering gauges. These could be established at the principal harbors and continuous records for several months or a year obtained.

Current observations to be of value must be obtained by a properly equipped ocean-going vessel, and such a vessel could obtain in a short voyage results of extreme value. At the same time, the vessel could and should be equipped for biological study—the current observations and the deep sea dredging for animal life going on side by side. For these two branches of oceanographic work a vessel is absolutely essential.

The specimens which are collected will eventually find lodgment in the American Museum of Natural History, except for the "first set" of duplicates. These will be deposited with the authorities of Porto Rico for the inauguration of an insular museum, and the academy's investigators will take particular pains to insure the good quality and extent of this series. Edmund Otis Hovey

THE NINTH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF APPLIED CHEMISTRY

Professor Paul Welden, president of the congress, in a personal letter writes as follows:

1. The meetings will be held in St. Petersburg from the 8th to the 14th of August, 1915.

2. Excursions are to be made to Finland, Moscow, Kiew, Baku in the Caucasus, etc.

3. In addition to the usual addresses, systematic reviews of the work in particular fields (with discussions) are to be given by specialists, on the invitation of the committee of organization, to a greater extent than formerly.

4. Particulars as to receptions, entertainments, etc., can only be given later.

5. The question of reduced railway fares on the Russian railroads is now under consideration by the government.

6. No obstacles will be placed in the way of the journey of Jewish chemists to the Congress provided (*a*) that at the frontier, in addition to the vised passport (requisite for every passenger), cards of membership, signed by the president and honorary secretary of the congress shall be presented.

7. An announcement of the Ninth International Congress in English will be sent in the course of the next few days or weeks to North America and England.

THE RUSSELL SAGE INSTITUTE OF PATHOLOGY

At a meeting of the board of directors of the Russell Sage Institute of Pathology, held in New York on June 5, the following officers were elected:

President, Dr. D. Bryson Delaven.
Vice-president, Dr. Simon Flexner.
Secretary, Dr. Theodore C. Janeway.
Treasurer, Dr. Graham Lusk.

Appointments to the scientific staff were as follows:

Scientific director, Dr. Graham Lusk.
Medical director, Dr. Eugene F. Du Bois.
Chemist, F. C. Gephart, Ph.D.
Assistant, Dr. A. L. Meyer.

Dr. Lusk reported for Dr. Du Bois that 142 observations had been made upon patients and on some normal controls during the past year and a half, using the respiration calorimeter established in the second medical division of Bellevue Hospital. In certain individuals an exact agreement between the actual heat production and the heat calculated from the gaseous exchange during hourly periods, was obtained for the first time in man. In the total of all experiments involving the measurement of 23,000 calories, these two methods of direct and indirect calorimetry agree both in health and disease within 1¼ per cent. The investigated cases included nine cases of typhoid during both fever and convalescence, one cretin, seven cases of exophthalmic goiter, one of splenic anemia, another with pernicious anemia, one man with acromegaly, one with hypopituitarism, one with malaria, and one with auricular fibrillation, mitral stenosis and greatly enlarged heart.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

DR. ROBERT S. WOODWARD, president of the Carnegie Institution of Washington, will give the address on the occasion of the dedication on July 10 of the new laboratory building of the Marine Biological Laboratory at Woods Hole.

THE Croonian lecture of the Royal Society was delivered on June 11, by Professor E. B. Wilson, of Columbia University, on the bearing of cytological research on heredity.

THE Franklin Institute of Philadelphia has awarded its Edward Longstreet medal of merit to Dr. W. J. Humphreys for his paper on "Volcanic Dust and Other Factors in the Production of Climatic Changes and their Possible Relation to Ice Ages," which appeared in the August, 1913, issue of its journal.

THE triennial Parkin prize of $500 of the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh, has been awarded to Dr. Johnson-Lavis for his work on the effects of volcanic action in the production of epidemic diseases in the animal and in vegetable creation, and in the production of hurricanes and abnormal atmospherical vicissitudes.

THE University of Manchester proposes to confer the following honorary doctorates of science: Professor W. H. Bragg, University of Leeds; Professor W. J. Pope, University of Cambridge, and Dr. J. E. Stead, Middlesbro'.

PROFESSOR R. G. D. RICHARDSON, of the department of mathematics at Brown University, has been elected to membership in the American Society of Arts and Sciences.

PROFESSOR R. C. ARCHIBALD, of Brown University, has been made a member of the editorial board of the *Bulletin* of the American Mathematical Society. Professor Archibald has also had a book by him on "The Lost Book of Euclid" accepted for publication by the Cambridge University Press.

THE Royal Society of Edinburgh has awarded the Neill prize to Dr. W. S. Bruce, in recognition of the scientific results of his Arctic and Antarctic explorations, and the Keith prize to Mr. J. Russell, for his investigations relating to magnetic phenomena in metals and the molecular theory of magnetism.

PROFESSOR A. W. GOODSPEED, director of the Randal Morgan Laboratory of Physics, University of Pennsylvania, has been granted leave of absence for the session of 1914–15. He leaves with his family for Germany on June 25.

PROFESSOR METCHNIKOFF, of the Pasteur Institute, is to be presented with a memorial volume to celebrate his scientific jubilee and his seventieth birthday.

DR. J. J. STEVENSON, emeritus professor of New York University, was entertained on May 28 at a dinner at Pottsville, Pa., by Mr. Baird Halberstadt. There were present a large number of those engaged in the mining industry, to which Professor Stevenson's researches have so greatly contributed. Among those who spoke were Dr. I. C. White, of the University of West Virginia, and representatives of the